



facsimile transmittal

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To: Examiner LaToya Cross

From: Andrew T. Karnakis
Senior Patent Counsel

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JUL 29 2004

OFFICIAL

Fax: 703-872-9306

E-Mail: karnakat@appliedbiosystems.com

Date: July 29, 2004

Pages: 10 (including cover sheet):

Re: RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED March 29, 2004

Serial No. 09/886,734 - Filed June 21, 2001

Our Ref : SYP-166

cc:

cc:

cc:

Comments/Notes:

Dear Examiner Cross:

Attached is an Amendment and Response and a Petition for Extension of Time to be filed in connection with the referenced Office Action.

I look forward to discussing this response with you should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Andrew T. Karnakis

Andrew T. Karnakis

Reg. No. 27,909

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306 on 7/29/04.

Patricia Tocci

Name

Patricia E. Tocci

Signature

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PAGE 1/10 * RCVD AT 7/29/2004 2:54:08 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:508 383 7468 * DURATION (mm:ss):03:14

OFFICIAL

Docket No. SYP-166

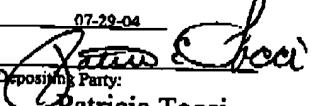
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/886,734
 Applicant(s) : Stephen L. Fichera et al.
 Filed : June 21, 2001
 TC/A.U. : 1743
 Examiner : LaToya I. Cross
 For : APPARATUS AND PROCESS FOR
 TRANSPORTING SAMPLE PLATES

Confirmation No.: 6037

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner LaToya Cross at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. 703-872-9306) on	
Date:	07-29-04
Signature:	
Type Name of Depositing Party: Patricia Tocci	

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment and Response is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 29, 2004 (the "Office Action") for the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

A petition and appropriate fee for a one month extension of time, up to and including July 29, 2004, are submitted herewith. If any additional fees are due, the Director is authorized to charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 501191 (Order No. SYP-166).

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.